



Abrazos Family Support Services: A community agency overview



Kaitlyn Casaus, MOTS, LEND Fellow 2018/2019

Abrazos Family Support Services: What they provide

- **Family infant toddler early intervention**
 - Ages 0-3 years
 - Provides therapy services for children with delays in development
- **Respite care**
 - Family need relates to the hours offered by Abrazos
 - Most families are referred to respite care
 - Children and youth ages 3-21 years
- **Recreational respite**
- Information and referral
- Case management
- Specialized therapy services
- Developmental play groups
- Developmental assessment
- Multidisciplinary evaluations

Who they are

- Occupational therapists
- Physical therapists
- Speech Language Pathology
- Respite providers
- Special needs educators
- Other support services

Funding sources

- Early intervention is funded through the NM Department of Health Family Infant Toddler Program
- Medicaid or private insurance
- State funding
- Private donations

Mission and Vision

Mission: To improve the lives of children and adults with or at risk for developmental disabilities and their families by providing specialized services.

Vision: To empower all children and families to achieve their full potential and live enhanced lives

Autism Recreation Programs

Recreation programs for children and youth with a diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder. These programs are highly sought out by families, as it provides support for youth to explore leisure activities in the community. Young people ages 4-18 are eligible for the program, and groups participate in therapeutic horsemanship, bowling, swimming, trampoline park activities, and more. Funding is provided through grants and private donations.

Abrazos Contact Information

412 Camino Don Tomas
Bernalillo, NM
87004
info@abrazosnm.org
(505) 867-3396

Eligibility for Services

Children:

Ages birth to three who have a developmental delay or developmental disability, or who are at risk for developmental delay due to health, medical, or other at-risk condition.

- For early intervention, the requirements are the same as the state eligibility of >25% delay in at least one area of development, biological or medical risk factor, established condition, or environmental risk factor.
- For respite care, child must have a diagnosis of a developmental disability or an IEP

Families:

Who want information about child development, health and safety or want to learn how to help their child learn and grow

Individuals and families who live in Bernalillo and Sandoval Counties

Referral process:

Physicians, parents (self-referral), other early intervention services, NICU, schools

Service provision process:

Families will receive an initial evaluation, and then early intervention will provide service coordination. After this, families will work to schedule necessary services, but often there is a waiting list. Speech is the highest need in EI, and Abrazos has a shortage of PT services.